

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders,—by dates not specified, for the erection of parsonage-houses at Maplebeck, Rhoulton, and Nottingham, and for a church and parsonage-house at Hasland, Derby: by 16th inst., for rebuilding the upper part of the spire of St. James's Church, Clerkenwell; by 31st, for the erection of judges' lodgings at Aylesbury; by 16th, for repaving and repewing Cowbridge Church, Glamorganshire; by 11th, for the erection of a block of dwellings near Spicer-street, Spital-fields; by 12th, for the various fittings required for lighting with gas the Borough Asylum for insane paupers, at Birmingham; by 8th, for deepening the bed of the river Medway: by 23rd, for the erection of an asylum for pauper lunatics in the county of Warwick: by 11th, for the erection of an infirmary at the Uxbridge Union, Hillingdon, Middlesex; by 21st, for the erection of five small houses near Blackheath; by 14th, for the erection of the Normal College for Wales, at Swansea (extension of time); by 16th, for the construction of brick arches and piers, &c., in widening Manchester station of North-Western Railway: by same date for the construction of an iron viaduct for same: by 12th, for the erection and completion of portion of an extensive range of farm steading, near Warrington; by 8th, for the erection of a farm-house at Illoom, Warwickshire; by 10th, for the labour in erecting farm buildings at Preston-upon-Wye; by 30th, for the execution of cast and malleable iron work for passenger shed and roof of central railway station at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and for supplying the glass for roof and other parts of same; by 7th, for the erection of a third portion of market avenue at Ashton-under-Lyne: by 26th, for the erection of sundry buildings and works at the new barracks, Sheffield; and by 9th, for a supply of pig-iron, pig-lead, ironmongery, &c., for the East-India Company.

COMPETITION.—The time for receiving plans for the restoration of Bridgewater Church is extended to 14th inst.

LAND SURVEYORS' ASSOCIATION.—The general association, some time since noticed in *THE BUILDER*, has given rise to a more select institution, under the title of "The Surveyors' Association," with rules of a more or less stringent order for the admission of members, the regulation of the affairs of the association, and the protection and promotion of the interests of the legitimate members of the profession. By section III. of the published code of regulations, it has been resolved that the association shall consist of three classes—viz., members, graduates, and honorary members. Every candidate for admission as a member must be twenty-four years of age, and have been regularly educated as a land surveyor, according to the usual mode of pupilage, or have acquired a knowledge of the profession in the office of a land surveyor for three years, and had a subsequent employment as such for three years further, one of them at least on his own account.—Graduates must be eighteen years of age, and have been two years in the office of a land surveyor, or under a course of instruction as land surveyor, and still in the profession. By section V. it is appointed that each member shall pay an annual subscription of one guinea, and each new member an entrance fee of one guinea. Each graduate shall pay annually half-a-guinea, and each new graduate an entrance fee of half-a-guinea. Members may compound for seven years by payment of five guineas, or for life, twenty guineas. The association already numbers fifty members, admitted in accordance with the regulations. Mr. Thos. Thurston, Ashford, is the chairman for the current year, and Mr. William Murray, 21, University-street, is the hon. secretary.

YORKSHIRE UNION OF MECHANICS' INSTITUTES. The Earl of Carlisle has consented to preside at the evening meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes, which will be held at Hull, on Wednesday, the 30th of May. There are now seventy-nine institutions in the union, and nine more seeking to be admitted at the annual meeting—making a total of eighty-eight institutions, containing about 16,000 members. On the day after the meeting there will be an excursion to Flamborough Head.

THE STEAM DOCKS AT KEYHAM, DEVONPORT.—It appears from a late debate on ways and means, that Government, about six years since, proposed an expenditure of 400,000*l.* for steam-dock accommodation, whereby, it was alleged, no less than 25 per cent. would be saved on repairing contracts. First, therefore, the comparatively modest instalment of 30,000*l.* was called for and voted; but the appetite for more appears to have grown, as did the estimate, with what it fed on, even down to the present moment: the following summary will shew the past and present state of these works of economy and saving:—

	Total estimate for New Steam Docks.	Instalment granted for the year.	Leaving still due.
1841-45 ..	£400,000 ..	£30,000 ..	£370,000
1845-46 ..	675,000 ..	100,000 ..	545,000
1846-47 ..	675,000 ..	133,000 ..	412,000
1847-48 ..	675,000 ..	120,000 ..	292,000
1848-49 ..	1,225,000 ..	150,000 ..	692,000
1849-50 ..	1,225,000 ..	120,000 ..	572,000

And, moreover, it is now said that the works were so hastily and injudiciously begun, that their chief utility will be entirely neutralized by their very situation, on a lee shore, with a depth of water too small to admit large steamers at ordinary full tide. Of course, with 572,000*l.* still to follow the 653,000*l.* already paid out, the works are as far from completion as they appeared to be when founded.

BLIND BUILDERS.—Tenders delivered for the New Market House, Brentford, April 27.

Figg	£4,725
Borton	3,777
Borchett	3,618
Glenn	3,490
Nye (accepted)	3,453
Taylor	3,197
Higgs	2,929
R. and E. Curtis	2,887
Tombs	2,786

IMPROVEMENTS IN CHISELS AND GOUGES.—Mr. H. Wilson, a foreman at Sheffield, has obtained a patent, in the specification of which he states, that in the manufacture of chisels and gouges it has been the practice to make some with sockets and others with tangs, for the purpose of affixing the handles to the same, the tangs and sockets in each case being used alone. The object of this invention is to combine the use of a socket and a tang with the same chisel or gouge, whereby each of such tools may be applied to the ordinary uses of a chisel and gouge, and to morticing, so that the workman will not require to have a tool for each purpose. The old socket-chisels and gouges have wooden handles inserted into their sockets; these handles, when the tool is being used, receive the blows or strokes of a mallet, and often those of a hammer, and are much subjected to lateral strain, from which circumstances the handles are liable to break off at the upper edge of the sockets, and the patentee considers that the addition of tangs to such tools will give greater stability to the handles. The ordinary tanged chisels and gouges also have wooden handles, which are drilled, and the tangs are driven into them, and in some cases ferrules are applied to the lower parts of the handles. The handles of these tools are liable to be split, not only by the side strain to which they are subject when in use, but also by reason of the tools being often driven by a mallet or hammer, and it is to obviate these defects that the patentee proposes to combine sockets with the tangs.

STEAM 'CUTTERS' FOR FROZEN SEAS.—Commander Joseph West, an officer of experience and skill, says the *United Service Gazette*, has proposed the construction of ice hammers and saws, to be worked in steamers by the engine shafts. The main object appears to be the navigation of the arctic region in search of Sir John Franklin's expedition; but the like invention seems to be feasibly applicable to the rapid opening of a way for shipping and commerce in northern ports when frozen up, and at a stand in winter. Ice 4 to 5 feet thick, it is calculated, may thus be broken up by hammers of 15 to 20 cwt., working alternately on each side before the stem of the vessel, which may be worked either by screw or paddle.

BATTLE MAPS.—With singular rapidity Mr. Wyld has published plans of the last battles in India, which will be examined with interest by those interested in military tactics, or who have friends fighting there.

BRIDGES IN CHINA, &c.—The bridges are variously constructed: some consist of a single arch, others of three or more arches, and some are merely a series of stone piers, with large stone slabs laid across them, as described by us in our account of the famous bridge at Foo-chow-foo. Some bridges are built of red granite, and others of a greyish marble, cut into blocks 5 feet or more in length, which are laid alternately end-ways and cross-ways. The arches are very high, are semi-circular, circular and polygons in shape, and the bridges have steps at either end. Some are very handsome structures, particularly one a few miles to the west of Peking, which is composed of white marble, beautifully cut and ingeniously devised. The balustrades are composed of 70 small pillars, on either side intermixed with marble tablatores, carved with birds and animals, foliage, and flowers.—*China and the Chinese.*

RIPON DIOCESAN CHURCH BUILDING SOCIETY.—The half-yearly meeting of the Central Committee was held the week before last, at Ripon, when grants were made towards the following objects:—400*l.* for the erection of a new church at Gomersal, which will contain 466 free sittings; 200*l.* each for the endowment of St. John's Church, Bradford, and a like sum for the endowment of St. Mary's Church, in Sowerby, near Halifax; 200*l.* each for the erection or purchase of parsonage houses for Holy Trinity, Ripon, St. Jude's, Bradford, and Ingrow-cum-Hainworth, near Keighley.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—At a meeting on the 30th April, Messrs. R. C. Baxter and R. J. Withers were elected associates. The first part of the following paper was read by Mr. J. W. Papworth:—"On some features of the connection between the Architecture and Chronology of Egypt; with an account of the Work lately presented to this Institute by Mr. J. B. Le Sueur, Architect, of Paris, being his Essay 'On the Chronology of Egypt illustrated by its Monuments,' to which the medal of the Institute of France was awarded in 1847."

EXHIBITION OF MACHINERY AT GHENT.—A special exhibition of machinery, frames, looms, and implements of trade (of Belgian or foreign make) employed in the manufacture of yarn and tissues of all sorts, is to be opened at Ghent (on the occasion of the exhibition of the produce of the industry of Flanders) in the month of July. Special rewards, consisting of commemorative medals, of gold, silver, and bronze, will be awarded to such exhibitors as shall appear to merit such a distinction.

BEDFORDSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—A joint meeting of the Northamptonshire Architectural Society and the Bedfordshire Architectural Society is appointed to take place at Higham Ferrers, on Tuesday, the 8th. The Marquis of Northampton will preside, and an excursion is proposed to some neighbouring churches on the following day.

RATING RAILWAYS.—We understand that the South-Western Railway have successfully appealed against the rating of their line by the parish of Romsey. The parish wanted 200*l.* per mile, the court gave 25*l.*

THE IRON TRADE.—At present the prices of wrought and pig-iron are pretty well sustained, though we fear very little of the former has realised the nominal price of 7*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

NOTICE.

On Tuesday was published, Part I., price 2*s.* 6*d.*, of "BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS, MODERN AND MEDIEVAL," being Illustrations of recently-erected Edifices, and of some of the Architectural Works of the Middle Ages, with Descriptive Particulars. Edited by George Godwin, F.R.S., Fellow of the Royal Institute of Architects, &c.

The first part of this work (to be continued every alternate month) contained Engravings on Wood, folio size, of—

Her Majesty's Marine Residence, Osborne; with Plan.

The Carlton Club House, Pall Mall.

Church of St. Isaac, at St. Petersburg; with Details.

Kensington Union Workhouse.

The Liverpool Branch Bank of England; and Details.

The New Throze, Canterbury Cathedral.

The North Porch, Restored, of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol.

The Interior of Lincoln's Inn Hall.

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